Resolution No.: <u>15-1589</u>
Introduced: <u>July 18, 2006</u>
Adopted: August 1, 2006

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Councilmember Subin

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget

Montgomery County Government Office of the State's Attorney

<u>Health Benefits for State's Attorney's Scholars;</u> \$22,050 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves)

Background

- 1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation: a) may be made at any time after public notice by news release; b) must state that the special appropriation is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency or to act without delay in the public interest; c) must specify the revenues necessary to finance it; and d) must be approved by no fewer than six members of the Council.
- 2. For many years, the State's Attorney's Office has had an Assistant State's Attorney's Scholar Program. The program allows new attorneys to gain prosecution experience for one to two years after graduating from law school and becoming members of the State Bar. These positions have been classified as temporary Public Administration Interns and, as such, persons in these positions have not been eligible for health or life insurance benefits offered through the County Government. There are currently seven "Scholars". These attorneys work as prosecutors in the District Court division.
- 3. Adequate health insurance is critical to a person's physical and mental well-being as well as their economic self sufficiency. The Council has been very concerned about the uninsured in Montgomery County both in the public and private sectors.
- 4. Based on a survey of the current seven Scholars, \$22,050 would be required to cover the cost of four Scholars who have indicated they would enroll in these benefit programs. Any new Scholar would be offered the option of health and life insurance.
- 5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

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Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

The County Council approves a special appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget of the Office of the State's Attorney to fund health and life insurance benefits for Assistant State's Attorney Scholar positions as follows:

Personnel	Operating	Capital	<u>Total</u>	Source
Services	Expenses	<u>Outlay</u>		of Funds
\$22,050	\$ 0 ·	\$0	\$22,050	General Fund Reserves

A special appropriation is necessary to act without delay as it is in the public interest to provide health and life insurance to County employees.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council